

NEW SOUTH WALES.BUSINESS STATISTICS, NOVEMBER, 1944.C O N T E N T S.PART I. PRIMARY & EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

RURAL INDUSTRIES - Seasonal conditions - heat wave and dust storms aggravate drought conditions. Further concession on carriage of fodder for starving stock. Early potato crop disappointing. Small oaten grain and hay crops forecast.

WHEAT. Small harvest. Payment of premium for seed wheat.

WOOL. Improvement in transport to Sydney. Decline in value of clip. Australian appraisalment results.

DAIRYING INDUSTRY. Rain needed in all coastal districts. Early introduction of milk rationing likely. Seasonal rise in butter production. Pay to cream suppliers.

PART II. FINANCE, TRADE ETC.

GENERAL. Review of manpower.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTS. October, 1944.

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## PART I - PRIMARY AND EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

### GENERAL.

Seasonal conditions. The serious agricultural and pastoral outlook in N.S.W. has been aggravated by the past few weeks of severe heat, with drying winds, some of gale force, and widespread dust-storms. Losses of sheep are reported to be extensive in the far South-west and very heavy losses are likely unless there is copious rainfall in the near future. Even in the northern portion of the State, where prospects had been favourable, pastures are drying rapidly.

An increase in the rebate on the carriage by rail of fodder for starving stock from 50% to 75% has been announced by the State Government.

The Commonwealth Government has introduced a bill to authorise the payment of £1.5 m. to growers of cereal crops who have suffered as a result of the drought. This is to be supplemented by equal payments by the States. The N.S.W. budget provides for the payment of £400,000.

The early coastal potato crop, now being harvested, is not expected to exceed 20,000 tons, which is little more than half earlier expectations. Planting of main crop potatoes in tableland districts has been affected by the dry weather.

The oat crop has been officially estimated at 2.66 m. bushels compared with 7.05 m. bushels in 1943/44. The estimated harvest hay 135,000 tons, compares with 329,905 tons last year.

### WHEAT.

Recent reports indicate that the N.S.W. harvest is likely to yield less than the first estimate of 20 m. bushels. The 1943/44 harvest was 47.5 m. bushels.

Owing to the shortage of wheat, the power alcohol distillery at Cowra is expected to close soon.

To conserve good quality grain for seed purposes and to encourage maximum cropping in 1945/46, the State Government has offered to pay growers a premium of 5d. a bushell for seed wheat up to 1.5 m. bushels. The premium will not be charged to growers purchasing the seed.

### WOOL.

Current season's wool received in Sydney to November 17th totalled 462,013 bales. This is 108,226 bales less than at the corresponding date last year, but the deficiency over last year's receipts was 127,118 bales at the end of October, the decline being due to improvement in transport.

A trade report states that, owing to lighter clip, the Australian wool income will probably decline by 10% (about £7.5 m.) compared with 1943/44.

Appriaselement results released by the Central Wool Committee show that Australian appraisements to mid-November were 1,118,820 bales with an appraised value of £19.8 m. These figures are, respectively, 95,792 bales and £2.5 m. less than at the corresponding date last year. In all States, except Victoria and Tasmania, the average appraised value is less than a year ago.

WOOL: AVERAGE APPRAISED VALUE TO MID-NOVEMBER.

Pence - per lb. greasy.

Year	<u>N.S.W.</u>	<u>Vic.</u>	<u>Q'land.</u>	<u>S.A.</u>	<u>W.A.</u>	<u>Tas.</u>	<u>Aust.</u>
1943	13.50	13.47	14.35	12.13	13.35	15.07	13.48
1944	12.71	13.80	14.25	11.90	13.12	16.34	13.22



At the end of last year an equalisation payment equal to 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ % of the appraised value was made.

### DAIRY INDUSTRIES.

Soaking rain is needed urgently in all coastal districts. On the North Coast, there is ample feed but it is drying off rapidly and is unsatisfactory for milk production. Because of the adverse conditions on the South Coast the chairman of the Milk Board expects milk rationing to commence earlier than last season.

Butter production in N.S.W. rose seasonally by 3.1 m. lb. to 8.5 m. lb. in October, 1944. This was about the same as in October, 1943. Total production in the four months ended October, 1944, was 19.5 m. lb. compared with 20.1 m. lb. in 1943 and 24 m. lb. in 1942.

### BUTTER PRODUCED - N.S.W. FACTORIES.

000,000 lb.

Period	Average '37-8/'39-40	1940/41	1941/42	1942/43	1943/44	1944/45
July,	5.1	5.0	4.6	5.2	3.3	2.5
August	5.3	5.0	4.6	5.3	3.3	3.1
September	7.1	6.5	5.9	6.0	4.9	5.4
October	10.1	8.0	7.5	7.5	8.6	8.5
Total 5 months	27.6	24.5	22.6	24.0	20.1	19.5
Balance of year	86.3	79.2	62.5	69.8	67.8	...
Year	113.9	103.7	85.1	93.8	87.9	...

Pay by certain North Coast factories to cream suppliers in October, 1944, was at the rate (approximate) of 13.17d. per lb. of commercial butter and an additional payment on account of subsidy was 5.33d. Subsidy for the year 1st April, 1944, to 31st March, 1945, is a basic rate of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. (commercial butter) and a seasonal payment of 2d. per lb. on 50% of the year's production spread over the non-flush months April to October.

### N.S.W. BUTTER : PAY TO CREAM SUPPLIERS BY CERTAIN NORTH COAST FACTORIES.

Pence per lb. of Commercial Butter.

Year	Monthly pay			Deferred Pay each month	Subsidy each month	Total Pay.		
	August	September	October.			August	September	October
	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
1939	12.00	12.25	12.00	0.75	...	12.75	13.00	12.75
1940	13.00	13.00	12.63	0.75	...	13.75	13.75	13.38
1941	13.00	12.88	12.62	0.50	...	13.50	13.38	13.12
1942	13.25	13.25	13.25	1.44	0.86	15.55	15.55	15.55
1943	13.75	13.75	13.25	1.00	3.80	18.55	18.55	18.05
1944	13.80	13.80	13.17	★	5.33	★	★	★

★ Not available until after 31st December, 1944.



PART II - FINANCE, TRADE, ETC.GENERAL.

In a review of Australian manpower and measures approved for a limited re-allocation in 1944/45, the Acting Prime Minister stated that available manpower is not expected to exceed 2,448,000 men and 812,000 to 820,000 women. By 30th June, 1945, there will be about 548,000 men in the forces representing 23% of the male labour force. Approval has been given to the re-allocation of 81,650 men and 15,600 women. Special releases from the Army and Air Force (announced in August last) and normal discharges less intake are expected to provide 44,700 men and 36,950 will be freed from the production of war supplies and Service works projects. The women will be provided for re-allocation as a result of decreased war production and reduction in recruitment for the auxiliary services, plus a small increase in the total number available. New demands for high priority civilian employment number 119,350 men and 25,500 women so that there is a manpower deficiency in essential industry of 37,700 men and 9,900 women. The new allocations include the following: Building and associated trades 30,400 men. Food production 21,000 men (8000 for dairying) and 500 women, Food processing, fertilisers, stock food, etc., 3,850 men, 1,700 women, Aircraft production and ship repair 3,200 men, 500 women, Civilian supplies 9,000 men, 5,000 women.

COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTS.

Commonwealth expenditure (£53.2 m.) in October, 1944, was £3.3 m. higher than in the previous month but approximately the same as in October, 1943.

Total expenditure (£193.4 m.) in the four months ended October, 1944, was £28.8 m. less than last year. Spendings from Revenue Account rose by £15.6 m. but there was a decrease of £4.4 m. in expenditure from Loan Account.

Increases in receipts from taxation include Income Tax £14.1 m., Sales Tax £660,000, Entertainments Tax £223,000 and Customs £188,000. Excise declined by £298,000.

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE.

(Excluding Income Tax Re-imbursed to States).

£ millions.

Service	Month of October.		Four months ended October.		
	1943	1944	1943	1944	Increase (+) Decrease (-)
War (1939) from -					
Revenue	10.0	14.1	46.4	62.2	(+) 15.8
Loan Fund	33.7	29.8	137.6	93.2	(-) 44.4
Total War	43.7	43.9	184.0	155.4	(-) 28.6
Other Revenue Services	9.9	9.3	38.2	38.0	(-) .2
Total all Services	53.6	53.2	222.2	193.4	(-) 28.8

With the receipt of subscriptions to the 2nd Victory Loan, Treasury Bills outstanding on Commonwealth account declined by £40m. to £338 m. in October, 1944. This is £5 m. less than the amount in June, 1944. Last year there was an increase of £82 m. between June and October.

TREASURY BILLS IN AUSTRALIA ON COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNT.

£ million.

Year	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.
1943	259.3	280.3	299.3	325.3	341.3
1944	343.3	348.3	365.3	378.3	338.3



STATE ACCOUNTS.

The State Budget forecasts a surplus of £510,000 in 1944/45 compared with an actual surplus of £1,185,000 in 1943/44. Excluding certain items of an abnormal character, expenditure is estimated at £70.1 m., or £2 less than last year, and revenue at £70.7 m., £2.6 m. less. The chief variations are in the Railway Accounts, in which earnings are expected to decrease by £3 m. to £32.3 m. as a result of a reduction in war traffic, coal restrictions and drought. An equivalent decrease in working expenses will be achieved mainly by reducing the provision for accruing maintenance of track and rolling stock.

In the four months ended October, 1944, railway earnings decreased by £1.3 m. and there was corresponding decrease in the amount charged to working expenses. Other business undertakings show small increases in both revenue and expenditure as compared with last year. A small improvement of £62,000 in the net balance of the combined accounts is due mainly to an improvement of £410,000 in the Consolidated Revenue Fund and a retrogression of £326,000 in the Main Roads Account.

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS.

Four months ended October.

Accounts.	1943.	1944.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-)
	£000	£000	£000
Revenue - Consolidated Fund	6,830	7,021	(+) 191
Business Undertakings	13,973	12,833	(-) 1,140
Main Roads	860	713	(-) 147
Total	21,663	20,567	(-) 1,096
Expenditure - Consolidated Fund	11,809	11,590	(-) 219
Business Undertakings	10,956	9,838	(-) 1,118
Main Roads	687	866	(+) 179
Total	23,452	22,294	(-) 1,158
Excess of Expenditure	1,789	1,727	(-) 62

of Railways, Trams & Buses, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and Sydney Harbour.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.

In September, 1944, deposits increased by £7.5 m., Advances by £1 m. and investments in Government Securities by £4.3 m. Movements in cash items were small.

Deposits amounted to £542.6 m. in September, 1944, compared with £471.6 m. in September, 1943, an increase of £71 m. Advances decreased by £26.6 m. to £215 m. but there was an almost compensating increase in Government Securities which rose by £22.4 m. to £100 m. Special War-time Deposits with the Commonwealth Bank, although £72 m. higher than a year ago, have shown little movement in the past three months; at £183.1 m. they are equal to 34% of customers deposits in the trading banks.



NINE TRADING BANKS - AUSTRALIA.

Liabilities and Assets within Australia.  
£ million.

Av. of Weekly Figures	Deposits.		Total	Coin, Notes, etc. & Cash at C'wealth Bank.	Treas-ury Bills.	Govt. & Municipal Securit-ies.	Special Wartime Deposits with C'wealth Bank.	Advances, Discounts, etc.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed)	Not Bearing Interest (Current)						
1939-June	200.9	117.1	318.0	28.6	23.9	22.1	-	291.7
1940 "	210.3	135.1	345.4	31.1	38.3	43.7	-	289.9
1941 "	204.9	155.1	360.0	33.3	36.1	61.9	-	283.7
1942 "	192.0	195.9	387.9	40.4	39.6	56.3	36.4	268.3
1943 "	197.4	256.1	453.5	33.4	50.8	75.7	102.9	246.0
1944 "	219.9	314.6	534.5	38.0	55.4	89.1	182.8	221.8
1943 June	197.4	256.1	453.5	33.4	50.8	75.7	102.9	246.0
July	203.2	248.1	451.3	35.2	47.4	75.6	103.3	249.6
Aug.	205.1	259.7	464.8	40.0	57.2	76.0	104.7	243.4
Sep.	205.9	265.7	471.6	39.0	58.8	77.6	111.1	241.6
1944 June	219.9	314.6	534.5	38.0	55.4	89.1	182.8	221.8
July	220.3	307.9	528.2	35.0	51.7	91.0	182.7	221.4
Aug.	221.3	313.8	535.1	37.6	57.4	95.7	182.8	214.0
Sep.	221.4	321.2	542.6	37.7	57.6	100.0	183.1	215.0

NOTE ISSUE.

Australian Notes in the hands of the public increased by £1.4 m. in the four weeks ended October, 1944. Increases in the twelve months ended October were £39 m. in 1942, £41m. in 1943 and £44 m. in 1944.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES HELD BY PUBLIC.

	Oct. 1939	Oct. 1941	Oct. 1942	Oct. 1943	1944			
					July	Aug.	Sept./	Oct.
£ million	37.1	59.3	98.6	139.5	179.2	180.0	181.9	183.3

BANK CLEARINGS.

The Index of bank clearings in the three months ended October, 1944, was 159 compared with 152 in 1943 and 100 in 1939.

In the ten months ended October, 1944, clearings amounted to £1,246 m. or £60 m. more than last year.

INTER-BANK CLEARINGS SYDNEY.

Period	Amount of Clearings ø				Index +			
	1939.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1939.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.				
April	70.7	95.4	125.3	108.4	98	125	150	150
May	82.0	98.9	123.0	143.6	100	125	155	158
June	80.3	116.6	132.6	140.1	101	133	163	166
July	71.2	99.7	114.3	123.0	98	130	155	168
Aug.	74.9	99.0	122.7	127.4	99	135	160	169
Sep.	74.9	105.6	116.5	120.9	99	134	155	163
Oct.	78.0	115.0	115.5	123.7	100	138	152	159
Jan/Oct.	754.6	1,021.9	1,185.8	1,245.8	...	...	...	...

ø Treasury Bill transactions deducted. + Three months moving average.  
Base, average in corresponding month 1926-1930 = 100.



REAL ESTATE.

Real estate transfers registered in October, 1944, amounted to £1,654,000. Though below the comparatively high levels of the four preceding months, the amount was a little in excess of the monthly average (£1,586,000), since the beginning of the year. The total in the ten months ended October, 1944, was £15.9 m. or 10% higher than last year. In the same period mortgage registrations rose by 20% to £5.6 m.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS, N.S.W.

Thousand £

Month	Transfers Registered				Mortgages (Incl. Renewals)			
	1939	1942.	1943.	1944.	1939.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Apr.	2,245	2,276	1,517	931	2,025	891	536	302
May	3,090	1,154	1,185	1,307	2,112	526	381	495
June	2,613	1,266	1,358	1,809	1,658	599	400	687
July	2,919	1,540	1,783	1,992	1,950	622	399	542
Aug.	3,068	1,671	1,379	2,241	2,770	451	450	723
Sep.	2,934	1,616	1,551	1,772	1,501	516	432	597
Oct.	2,331	1,514	1,549	1,654	1,713	423	618	634
Jan/Oct.	27,709	18,406	14,392	15,855	19,387	6,915	4,704	5,638